

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 2 to 19 have been canceled.

Sole independent system claim 1 remains.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Goldhaber et al. US 5,269,946. During prosecution of the parent case, the Examiner also relied upon Pall et al US 5,217,627.

Neither Goldhaber '946 nor Pall '627 teach or suggest a blood processing system that yields for storage (i) a unit of red blood cells made essentially free of leukocytes by passage through a fibrous filter media, (ii) a unit of cell free platelet-poor plasma made essentially free of red blood cells, platelets, and leukocytes by passage through a membrane filter media, and (iii) a unit of platelets. Goldhaber '946 is concerned with the removal by filtration of leukocytes and platelets from red blood cells prior to storage. Goldhaber '946 does not teach, suggest, or contemplate the removal by membrane filtration of essentially all cellular blood species from platelet-poor plasma prior to storage, including the removal by membrane filtration of red blood cells. Pall '627 is concerned with blocking the passage of red blood cells with platelet-rich plasma prior to storage, but, like Goldhaber '946, does teach, suggest, or contemplate the removal by membrane filtration of essentially all cellular blood species from platelet-poor plasma, including the removal by membrane filtration of platelets, prior to storage.

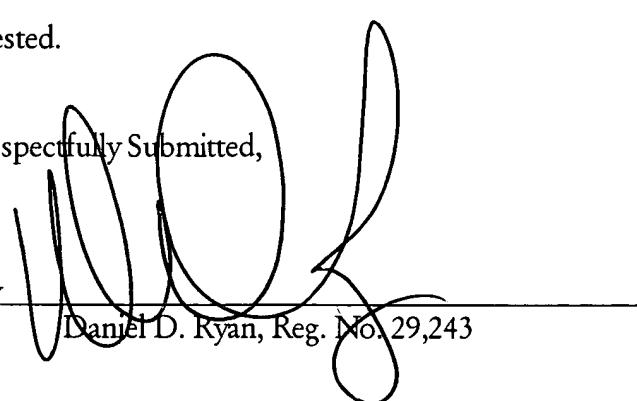
Claim 1, as amended, defines the presence of three specified blood products, two of which have been treated with different specified filtration media to yield specified different results. This combination of elements is not taught, suggested, or contemplated by Goldhaber '946 and/or Pall '627.

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Allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

By


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